

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01

STR-04 L-03 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-03 ABF-01 AGR-05

TAR-01 INT-05 FEA-01 EURE-00 /110 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5070

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 29333

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ECON, EGEN, OVIP (FORD, GERALD)

SUBJECT: BACKGROUND FOR PRESIDENT'S VISIT: FRENCH
EXPECTATIONS

NOTE: THIS IS LAST IN SERIES OF MESSAGES WE HAVE
SUBMITTED FOR DEPARTMENT'S USE IN PREPARING PAPERS FOR
ECONOMIC SUMMIT. PREVIOUS MESSAGES WERE: PARIS 27954;
28527; 28528; 28529; AND 28538.

1. THE SIGNALS ARE CLEAR AS TO WHAT THE FRENCH HOPE TO
ACHIEVE WITH ECONOMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE. THEIR
EXPECTATIONS CAN BE SIMPLY STATED AS:

A) FACT OF SUMMIT ITSELF.

SUMMIT REPRESENTS CONTINUED FRENCH SUCCESS IN IMPROVING
US-FRENCH RELATIONS, MOVING FROM TENSION AND POLEMIC TO
WHAT FRENCH CALL GREATER REALISM IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY.
THIS EXEMPLIFIED BY U.S. ACCEPTANCE OF RENEWED NORTH-

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SOUTH DIALOGUE; SAUVAGNARGUE'S WARM RECEPTION IN

WASHINGTON; EXTREMELY CORDIAL WELCOME ACCORDED CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER AND MANY OTHER OFFICIAL U.S. VISITORS; AND NOW, U.S. AGREEMENT TO ECONOMIC SUMMIT, WHICH FRENCH CONTINUE TO CALL MONETARY SUMMIT, AND WHICH THEY SAY REFLECTS WASHINGTON'S OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS THAT THIS IS IN AMERICA'S BEST INTEREST.

B) DOMESTIC POLITICAL ELEMENTS.

IN DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONTEXT, FRENCH HOPE SUMMIT WILL DEMONSTRATE CONTINUING DYNAMISM OF GISCARD ADMINISTRATION IN ATTACKING FRANCE'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. FRENCH VENUE OF SUMMIT WILL SERVE TO EDUCATE FRENCH ELECTORATE ABOUT INTERNATIONAL DIMENSIONS OF ECONOMIC CRISIS, THEREFORE ALLOWING ADMINISTRATION TO BLAME OUTSIDE FORCES IF RECOVERY IS TOO WEAK AND/OR TOO SLOW. ALSO NOT DISCOURAGED HERE IS THE IDEA THAT IN BRINGING TOGETHER SMALL GROUP OF CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF MOST POWERFUL INDUSTRIALIZED DEMOCRACIES, GISCARD IS CONSUMMATING DE GAULLE'S DREAM OF FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN A WESTERN DIRECTORATE WHICH STANDS ABOVE, AND GIVES GUIDANCE TO ALL OTHER FREE WORLD GOVERNMENTS.

C) MOVE TOWARD MORE MONETARY DISCIPLINE.

FRENCH HOPE USE SUMMIT TO MOVE USG TOWARD AN INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SYSTEM ULTIMATELY BASED ON STABLE BUT ADJUSTABLE PARITIES WITH, AT VERY LEAST, SOME AGREEMENT TO INDUCE GREATER STABILITY IN CURRENT FLOATING ARRANGEMENTS VIS-A-VIS EC CURRENCIES AND THE DOLLAR.

D) ECONOMIC COORDINATION.

FRENCH WILL STRIVE FOR RINGING STATEMENT FROM PARTICIPANTS, OPPOSING TRADE WARS AND ENCOURAGING PUBLIC CONFIDENCE THAT THE PARTICIPANTS, PARTICULARLY THE U.S., ARE NOT YIELDING TO PRESSURES FOR PROTECTIONISM WHICH MIGHT PUT IN JEOPARDY WORLD TRADE; WILL ALSO SEEK COORDINATION OF NATIONAL POLICIES TO REDUCE INFLATIONARY PRESSURES AND TO ACHIEVE A NON-INFLATIONARY EXPANSION OF MAJOR INDUSTRIAL COUNTRY ECONOMIES.

E) NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE.

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KIND WORDS FOR UPCOMING CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (CIEC) WILL BE ENCOURAGED.

F) ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE.

BOTH "D" AND "E" IMMEDIATELY ABOVE WILL BE USED TO DEVELOP THEME THAT NOW AS NEVER BEFORE ECONOMIC FORCES ARE WORLDWIDE IN THEIR SCOPE AND MULTINATIONAL IN THEIR IMPACT. SUMMIT CAN BE USED TO HARNESS THESE FORCES IN

DEFENSE OF THE FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM AND HELP RE-
ESTABLISH WESTERN CONTROL OVER THESE FORCES WHICH DEFY
PURELY NATIONAL EFFORTS.

2. FRENCH MAY ALSO BE EXPECTED TO USE SUMMIT OCCASION
FOR CORRIDOR CONVERSATIONS CONCERNING INDUSTRIAL WORLD
REPRESENTATION AND CHAIRMANSHIPS AT CIEC. HIGHEST LEVELS
IN GOF PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN FINDING WAY TO ASSUAGE
CANADIAN FRUSTRATION AT NOT BEING INVITED TO SUMMIT.

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